WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1883.

Academy of Music—The Newalsh, TP, H. Academy of Design—Art Loon Exhibition, Hijon Operas House—Opposite and Entrylon, RF, H. Casion—The Regrat Station), 24, M. Daly's Thentre - vend wante Eight. Sant & P. M. Grand Opera House-Hard Kirks, 4 P. M. Branch Speed States Live Sides 4 7 8 Haverly's Man Francisco Minsterl Theorem, 5 2 Madison Square Shenter—The Rain, 2017 M. New Park Theorem - Institute Share Land 5 P. M. Sthick Garden The Paverent of Paris 2 and 5 P. M. Propie's Theatre- A Courted Keys, Tand St. M. Stor Theatre-Stimila . P. M.

Theater Combigue Contribut Assistings & P. M. Thalis Theater—The Berger Statest. 2 and 8 P. M. Tony Paster's Theater—The Medice Gross Perty Union Square Thenive State Sealen #P. S Wallack's Chester At America Wile & P. M. Md Av. Theatre-San Tai Prince & P. M. Bitt Av. Theatre The Gare of Parties. & P. M. Eith St. Theatre of p. & F. M.

Advertising Rates

DAILY AND SUNDAY, 40 cents a line, ordinary advertis ing: large type, 80 cents; and preferred positions, 50 cents to \$2.50, according to classification.

WERELY, 50 cents a line; no extra charge for large type. Preferred positions from 75 cents to \$2

The New Plunder Barometer.

The new Committee on Rivers and Harbors is charged with part of the work that has belonged to the Committee on Commerce. It consists of nine Democrats and six Republicans.

This committee will serve very well as a plunder barometer during the present session. Its actions and recommendations will indicate the state of atmospheric pressure in the lobby, and the probability of a tornado next fall like that which demolished the Republican majority in the Fortyseventh House, in November, 1882.

Two of the nine Democrats on the committee and five of the six Republicans were members of the last Congress. The Chairman, Mr. Willis of Kentucky, opposed the \$18,000,000 steal and voted to sustain the President's veto. Willis is all right. Not so, however, with Newton C. Blanchard of Louisiana. He made a bad record on this steal, and has no business to be back in Congress again. The seven other Democrats are new men, with sense enough, we hope, to understand the force of a tremendous warning.

The portraits of four of the six Republicans are already in the rogues' gallery of River and Harbor jobbers. Robinson of Ohio has a creditable record. The sixth member is a new man.

It appears, therefore, that the course of this important committee in business which the country still regards with lively interest depends upon the firmness, integrity, and independence of the newcomers.

Enormous Waste of Public Money.

The public printing, binding, and lithographing for the last fiscal year cost \$2,861,-274.42. In 1878 the total expenditure was \$1,638,701.53. So that in five years there has been an increase of \$1,222,572.89 for this service, of which it may be said there is hardly anything valuable to show for such an enormous outlay.

These huge figures exclude the millions that have been invested in land, buildings, machinery, type, repairs, extensions, and other improvements, which, in one form or another, have been regularly demanded from every Congress since the Government cutered the printing business nearly a quarter

of a century ago. The whole legislation on this subject has been marked by a profligate extravagance, which has resulted in immense profits for favored Rings and the creation of a great hospital for lazy politicians. This "Government Printing Office" is, perhaps, the only establishment in the civilized world where the highest priced materials, worked into form by the highest priced labor, are in great part sold for waste paper and reduced to pulp to repeat the process of wanton and

wicked destruction. Representatives seek appointments on the joint Committee on Printing because those places control contracts for supplies and patronage in the printing office. The Public Printer wants the largest possible appropriations, and he generally gets them by favors to the committees.

A system of legalized plunder, which costs the taxpayers the annual interest on a hundred millions of 3 per cents, has been going on and increasing since the beginning of the civil war, without serious obstruction from any party. The Democrats reduced the appropriations for two or three years, but they failed to attack the source of the evil or to apply the stern remedy by which this consuming cancer can be destroyed.

It would be a public benefit if the Government Printing Office disappeared from the face of the earth, so that this work should be opened to fair and honest competition. The moral advantage of such a change would be even greater than the material economy.

More than two thousand persons, male and female, are on the regular rolls of this office, and they receive in wages "about \$5,000 per day," according to the report of the Printer.

Like most other overpaid officials, the Public Printer wants more help to swell the list of idle favorites. He wants "one disbursing clerk, salary \$2,100; four clerks of class four, two clerks of class three, four clerks of class two, four clerks of class one, one clerk of \$1,000 per annum, and four messengers."

The best answer to this demand would be to abolish the whole concern, and to retire the Public Printer to private life, with all

his surroundings. The Republican party ought to go!

Strange Rumors from the Soudan.

This is an extraordinary report published by a Cairene newspaper, that although Hicks Pasha and a part of his command were slaughtered, the result of the engage ment near El Obeid was a reverse for the False Prophet. It seems at first sight incredible that the whole Moslem world, as well as those European powers which are sommercially interested in the Nile land, should have been plunged for weeks in groundless excitement and anxiety. Yet when consider the remoteness of the field of pattle, the difficulty of communication, and the extreme meagreness and vagueness of the accounts hitherto received, we must admit that a complete misconception of the facts was not impossible. On the whole, however, we incline to think that if the Egyptian forces had really, as we are now told, gained a victory, the news would have reached us long ago, for such a profound impression would have been made upon the Nile Bedouins that little resistance would have been encountered by messengers in

It must be owned, indeed, that the sources from which the present rumors are said to emanate are precisely those from which authentic information would be earliest expected. Bearers of despatches or fugitives from the expeditionary force would, unestionably, make either for Berber or for Castos and drank be

traversing the desert.

places concur in asserting that the army under Hicks Pasha, although it suffered heavy losses, was substantially successful, and the account telegraphed from Dongola, which enters into more particulars, maintains that after his repulse Et. MAHDI was deserted by most of his followers. To some persons the story will seem confirmed by the delay of the African reformer in following up his supposed victory; but, as we have previously pointed out, the movements of undisciplined hordes brought together by an outburst of barbarism and fanaticism are not governed by the ordinary rules of strategy, and a period of inaction was likely to supervene, no matter what was the issue of the conflict near El Oboid.

by the Egyptian authorities at Dongola and Berber would have more weight had they been officially transmitted to the British Government by its representatives in the Nile country. But all we know about these surprising despatches is that they were printed in an Arabic newspaper at Cairo -perbaps the same journal which during the last Russo-Turkish war published the most asounding declarations of Ottoman successos, and which, after Sir Garante Wolseney had carried Tel-el-Kebir by assnult, regaled the faithful with the assurance that the Glaours and been annihilated. It is a matter of such vital concern to Prince Travers and his fast-diminishing adherents to allay Mohammedan disaffection as much as possible until the military force at their disposal has been materially strengthened, that any rumors favorable to the Khedive's prestige are naturally open to some suspicion. It should, at all events, be possible for Sir EVELYS BAR-ING and Gen. Sir EVELYN Wood to determine how much credence may be placed in the despatches from Dongola and Berber, and until we hear something from the representatives of the British Government we shall hardly feel disposed to place much confidence in the reported defeat of the False Prophet.

The Star Route Cases Fading Away. The complaint against George E. Spencer, once a carpet-bag Senator and now defendant in the Starroute cases, was dismissed on Saturday last by Judge WYLTE. SPENCER had been taken to Washington by the United States Marshal of Nevada, upon a writ of attachment, Issued to the Marshal of Washington. on the 12th of July, 1882. It appeared that the subprena had been served by an inspector of the Post Office Department, and was not addressed to the United States Marshal, the proper officer to make the service in person or by deputy. The summons was "a naked, starved kind of writ," and was void.

The special counsel for the Government will be hard pressed to find a sufficient answer to the charge of incapacity or ignorance which Judge WYLIE has thus indirectly made against them. Some of these "special assistants" have received as much as fifty thousand dollars a year for their services. Yet they have signally failed in discharging a simple duty which any ordinary clerk in a law office might be expected to perform accurately. Worse than this, they ordered the arrest of Spences to be illegally made upon a process which Judge WYLLE threw

out of court with scornful suggestions. The acquittal of W. P. KELLOGG may be expected to follow as a logical sequence to these successive failures. And when that comes a most costly and discreditable farce will be ended, in which the lawyers will carry off all the profits.

Congress can hardly fail to make a searching inquiry into this Star route business, not only on account of the immense outlay made by the Attorney-General, but for other and sufficient reasons which have attracted

Spurious Pictures.

It has long been obvious to every one at all familiar with picture sales that large numbers of paintings sold as the works of European artists of distinction must be spurious and the work of clever counterfeiters. Even the names of living painters of high rank are frequently signed to pictures which ould never have come from their studios. but the sourious works are more commonly attributed to famous artists more or less recently deceased, while the manufacture of what are known as examples of the "old masters" has gone on for generations, as we learn from the history of art.

Of more recent years, however, the demand for these old masters, so called, has greatly declined. People have grown to suspect the genuineness of the dingy and cracked canvases offered them as the works of RAPHAEL, GUIDO, RUBENS, OF TITIAN. Besides, the tastes of picture buyers have changed since the days when Americans, returning from a tour of Europe, brought with them what they fondly believed to be authentic productions of the old masters whose works they had seen in European galleries. Modern French, German, Flomish, and Italian art is what now appeals to the purses, if not to the taste, of rich pic ture buyers.

The desire to gather a collection of the works of the famous artists of these schools s now so widespread, not only here, but in England, that it is apparent that it could not be met as fully as it seems to be at present unless the artists produced their pictures with the aid of laborsaving machinery, or at least with the help of a large number of hands, which, of course, no great artist does. Every man who is ambitious of possessing a gallery of paintings of the fashionable sort is dissatisfied until he gets examples, or what he regards as examples, of the work of perhaps a score of artists of extraordinary contemporary fame. These private picture galleries, too, are found, not in our great Lastern cities merely, but throughout the country as far as the Pacific coast; and they are rapidly increasing in number. All have or are endeavoring to acquire pictures by the same artists, who, taken all together, are far too small a com-

pany to produce so many works. The counterfeiting of pictures is so serious an cvil, and so dangerous a fraud, extensively practised as it is by dealers and clever masters of the technical details of art that the public are likely to grow so suspicious that they will doubt the genuineness of all saintings unless they have actually seen them on the easel of the artist.

A bill, known as the BARDOUX law, which s now awaiting the approval of the French Senate, provides for the punishment by fine and imprisonment of all counterfeiting of pictures and signatures. Another plan proposed is the regitration of pictures just as births are registered, the artist, supported by witnesses, appearing at a designated public oflice and entering his picture as he would his new-born child. So far as France is concerned, and even so far as careful American picture buyers are affected, either of these plans might be effectual; but neither would be likely to altogether stop the counterfeiting of pictures for the American market, and

The Paris correspondent of the Times gives an account of a recent lecture by M. JACQUES DE BIEZ, a well-known art critic, on the subject of the counterfeiting of art, Dougola. Now, the Governors of both those | which fully sustains all we have said. M.

especially those put up at auction.

Brez even estimates that four-fifths of the pictures sold to-day are false, which seems and probably is a very exaggerated statement. The enormous prices which the works of a comparatively small number of popular artists command, of course offer the incentive to fraud. All sorts of artistic objects, brie-à-israe, antiquities, and curiosities are counterfeited, and why not pictures? And when the style of the painter is pronounced, the counterfeiting is all the easier. M. ALEXANDRE DUMAS only lately bought and highly prized a spurious Coror, paintings attributed to whom are sold by the score at the winter auctions in New York. The most distinguished names are those oftenest counterfeited, and the The telegrams alleged to have been sent fraud is most commonly practised when the men are dead, as in the cases of Conor and Diaz. If those two famous painters produced a fraction of all the pictures which have been sold as theirs within the last five or ten years, besides those known to be authentic, they must have wielded the brush with both fingers and toes, and worked twenty-four hours a day without ceasing.

The majority of our picture buyers who buy most and pay the highest prices are governed in making their purchases by names merely. Disclosures like those of M. JACQUES DE BIEZ must create painful doubts in many of them.

Absenteersm From the Bench.

A very remarkable memorial was presented a the Senate a few days ago, from "A. J. Evans, United States Attorney Western District of Texas." His charges are as follows:

Pirst-The United States Judges, while most indus cousis drawing their salaries, are persistently and with at vaird excuses, and upon the smallest protects, failing a high the terms of their courts as fixed by law.

Second—it is almost the invariable rule of all the

district Judges, as soon as inducted into office, to appoint

their sons, somethias, brothers and brothers in law, and other relatives to the places of district and deputy listrict cierks in their courts, and that, too, without the emotest thought of their moral character, honesty, or apacity for the places, and having so appointed them, to old them in office, to the great wrong of the public. "In urging upon your consideration the necessity o remedy for these evils. I have but to say that Judges re but men, and that there exists no law that compels tem to hold their courts at the peril of loss of salary or ther inconvenience; and the facts are, as we are in craised, that the District Judges all over the Union are holding just such terms of their courts as they find convenient, and no more, and permitting U. S. prisoners to

inger in fall months, and even years, for trust In the Western District of Texas the District Judge villiont the excuse of sickness or other good cause, has a the last three years held but two terms of his court at frownsville, Texas, out of the six terms he should have

In the Eastern District of Texas the Judge faded to of his court the last form at Tyler, and both of the ast terms of court at Jefferson, though United States. resource were confined in the jails awaiting trial at

The manuable course of these defaulting Judges is to make a sham of holding the courts by having all the jurors and witnesses summoned, and, at the last hour get up the pretext of a sick child, a wife gets a fall, or other similar casualty, and back out, the true cause being larmess and fear of a few dollars' expense from home, and no loss of inconvenience to themselves if they do not head the courts.

"When a litigant is so unfortunate as to get into a

United States Court where the Judge is the father of the terk, what chance has he to enforce his rights against the negiect, misfensance, and unifersance of the clerk! What chance has the Government or the people against the clerk, who is a depositary of public moneys, if he thould embezzle the public funds, with his father on the

"The chief reason for old Judges holding over after seventy years is the fact that they have their sons, sens in law, brothers and brothers in law, uncles, aunts nephows, nieces, and cousins all pensioned on the United States, and to keep them there they stay themselves."

These are grave charges made by a public officer under his own name. The usual course of proceeding in such a case would be for the District-Attorney to report the facts to the Department of Justice. But Mr. Evans has entirely ignored "BREWSTER, Attorney-General," and addressed himself directly to Congress with a complaint which must become

the subject of investigation and of action. This neglect of duty by the Judges in Texas is by no means exceptional. It is notorious in other States. Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States frequently go to Europe in the summer, leaving their circuits abandoned during these terms of pleasure, while the business of that court is

three years in arrears. The responsibility for these culpable practices may be traced directly to Washington. Gen. Grant set the example of prolonged absences from duty, and he went so far as to transfer the seat of public business from the capital fixed by law to Long Branch. His Cabinet, the heads of bureaus, the chiefs of divisions, and other officials imitated that bad example, and the seat of government was practically deserted for four months of the year by the officers charged with the

highest trusts. The Fraudulent President followed in Grant's footsteps, and the present incumbent of the Presidency has adopted these pernicious precedents as guides for his official conduct. Absentectsm in its worst forms has thus been sanctioned and encouraged by the highest authority in office until it has become a serious evil, and a costly embarrassment to the public service.

It will continue to grow worse and more perplexing until Congress shall by positive enactment impose restraints on officials of all grades and in every department, beginning with Senators and Representatives, that will prevent the continuation of this practice. Subordinates are now limited to a month's absence from duty without pay. But their superiors in place are free to go and come at deasure, and they do not scruple to draw full pay for continuous months of neglected luty. A remedy must be found for this glaring evil.

A Professional President Maker.

One of the interesting discussions now in progress is in regard to the future profesional engagements of Secretary Chandler. It seems to be taken for granted with great unanimity that the business card of this lively and enterprising gentleman reads something like this:

WILLIAM E. CHANDLER, LL. B., Presidential Promoter, Agent &c. Patronage solicited.

ab- Desporate Cases a Specialt; Is Mr. CHANDLER retained for 1884 by Mr. ARTHUR OF by Mr. BLAINE? At first view it appears as if there could be no doubt on this point. Mr. CHANDLER holds an offic in the President's Cabinet. He is believed to be the inventor and chief manager of the plan to build up an Administration party in some of the Southern States, with reference to their delegations to the Republican Convention next June. It has been reported that his present relations with Mr. BLAINE are not particularly friendly. Whether this is true or not, Mr. CHANDLER is certainly employed by the Administration just now.

future services are at the disposal of his present employer. For years he worked faithfully and intelligently for Mr. BLAINE. In 1880 he led the BLAINE delegates from New Hampshire to the Chicago Convention, and was especially active in the interes of his client, Through Mr. BLAINE's influence he was nominated by President GARPIRLD as Solicitor-General in the Department of Justice, but was rejected by the Senate. A few months later President AB-

But it does not follow that Mr. CHANDLERE'S

THUR made him Secretary of the Navy. The reported rupture in his friendly relations with Mr. BLAINE may never have occurred. He may hold that his professional engagement to Mr. ARTHUR terminates on March 4, 1885, and does not include preliminary work for the term beyond that date. For all that we know, Mr. CHANDLER may have been retained already for the next can vass by Mr. Blaine, Mr. Logan, Mr. Ben

HARRISON, or Private DALZELL. With all his activity, onterprise, and ingenuity, Mr. CHANDLER has not yet succeeded in making a President. His nearapproach to success was in 1876. when he made a Fraudulent President; and after he had created and established his Fraudulent President no man was ever more disgusted with his own work.

Thurman is the Rest Man.

The best man for the Democrats of Ohio to send to the Senate of the United States is ALBEN G. THURMAN.

He has been tried, and the whole country knows him. He would make a Senator of power and usefulness, without any other ambition than that of doing his whole duty, The interests of the entire country would be advanced by the election of Mr. Thurman.

The death of Boyen Bazenats, which the Haytian Government now reports with posliveness, must be a hard blow to the insurgent ause. He has been its head and front, and, in fact, was the leader of the party that landed at Miragonne and captured the town, thereby starting the revolt. For many months his followers have been pent up in that place, and perhaps it was in one of the desperate sorties ith which he attempted to break up the siege that he perished.

The struggle still continues at its three main points Miragonne Jérémie and Jaemel on the southern shore of the island; but it would not be surprising if the equilibrium so long prevalling between besiegers and besieged should very soon give way. Through the port of Jacmel, which, with the aid of a stenmer fitted up as a war vessel, has been kept open, the insurgents have received provisions and arms from various sources, and especially from Philadel phia, which has been an impartial source of supply for both sides. Whether the Government or the revolutionary party gives way, the downfail will probably be followed by a furious wrenking of vengeance on the vanquished.

The Temperance men come out rather badly in the make-up of that House committee in which they are most interested. No memher of the Committee on Alcoholic Liquor Traffic comes from a State that is inclined toward prohibition. Our friends the Prohibitionists have a hard road to travel.

Congress would do well to examine the aggestion of the Superintendent of the Naval tendemy, to so modify the act of 1882 that the election of cadets for filling the vacancies in the may shall be made at the end of the four years' course, instead of at the end of six years. s now. The last two years are passed on cruising ships; and, as Capt, Ramsay says, many of the cadets who perform this service affont know that there cannot possibly be enough vacancies to include them, since they are too low on the scale of academic merit to be retained. Hence they cannot take that interest in their sea duties which they would otherwise do, and the expense of maintaining for these two years is almost thrown away.

The English seem in general to accept Mary Anderson not only as a beautiful woman with an underliable dramatic gift, but as already a finished artist; and, perhaps, one of the finest compliments yet paid her is that of GIL-BERT, in writing for her a play requiring so much versatility and dramatic power as Comedy and Tragedy." In this, according to, the published summary of the plot, the heroine must be by turns amusingly vivacious and the prey of the most intense auxiety, and must effect a swift transition from one set of emotions to another such as SARAH BERRHARDT herself might be proud to essay. Should Miss Anderson successfully pass this test, thus howing ability to create a striking character, and then the entirely different test of Lada Machelle, which she is said to be contemplating. her histrionic reputation will have been placed on a very strong basis.

It does not look as though President ABTHUR were going to let his friends in New fork press a strong Stalwart for Speaker of Assembly. The Stalwarts may vote for a tractable Half Brood and prevent a clash whose echoes might reach the Chicago Convention. It is a contest with soft gloves at present.

If Mr. George D. Roninson makes a good record as Governor of Mussachusetts, it is not unlikely that an effort will be made to send him to the Senate in the place of HENRY LAUness Dawes, who, in the opinion of a great many members of his party in Massachusetts. has received honors enough. Dawis considered himself and was considered by some of the western Massachusetts people as a very eminent person when he was in the House. It is generally admitted that he has been a lamentable failure in the Senate. He is a friend of the Indian and of civil service reform, and of other noble causes of sentimental twaddle; but his talk is not noted for strength or sincerity, and it is suspected that there is a good deal of humbug about it. His chief recommendation in Massachusetts is the fact that he comes from the western part of the State. Bourson has that qualification too, and both in popularity and in intellectual vigor he is greatly superior to the slight, unmeritable Dawes. But perhaps HOAR wouldn't like ROBINSON as a colleague. It is said that Hoan is superior to Dawis, which is severe to the Pittsfloid man.

It is pleasant in this mercenary age to record an instance of a devotion to convictions that rises superior to considerations of gold. It is sad, however, to see a great savant suffering on account of his enthusiasm for a scientific hypothesis which has not yet commended itself to the world. The Rev. Joun Jaspen, the illustrious theologian and astronomer of Richmond, says that the membership of his church has dwindled from two thousand to twenty since he uttered his epoch-making The sun do move." If he were willing to abjure his favorite theory, his church and he might again be prosperous; but he will never do that. His congregation and the sun do ove, but Jaspan never moves. Verily, science still has her martyrs.

It is to be hoped that Mr. WILLIAM WAL-TER PHELES Will nurse his faculties car fully during the Christmas recess, and be prepared o come back to Congress and take the leading position to which his great abilities and the enthusiasm of the Teitome for him entitle him. His attempt to rebuke KEIPER was unfortunate: but KEIPER has been bitterly snubbed by his steemed associates, and the way is new clear o Mr. Phales and his extensive ambition. Let him come to the front and display himself. But, awful thought! perhaps his esteemed associates in Congress will send him to the rear, if he should push forward, as promptly as they sont the lamented KEIPER.

A Free Trader Yet a Protectionist.

From the Brooklyn Eagle. Mr. Howitt is a free trader by reason of what he knows as an iron manufacturer as much as by what he has learned from the writings of postical economists. He is in himself a guarantee that Wr. Carlisle, without atoming in the least his opposition to the protective sys-tem, expects to see the exil extirpated, as skilful phy sicians overcome rooted maindies in the human body by steadily operating remedics, rather than by any vic

Old Turk Decorated. Old Turk, Staten Island's aged pensioner, at the almahouse, had his mane and tail descrated with gay clabons yesterday is honor of the day

LIFE IN MODERN PALESTINE.

d Jewish Community that from Time Immemorial have Lived in the Same Pince. HAIPA, Nov. 25 .- In one of the most remote and secluded valleys in the mountains of northern Galilee lies a village, the small popution of which possesses an interest altogether unique. As I looked down upon it from the precipitous and dangerous path by means of

which I was skirting the flank of the mountain, I thought I had rarely seen a spot of such ideal beauty. It was an onsis-not actually in a desert, for the rocky mountain ranges were covered with wild herbage-but in a savage wilderness of desolation. In the midst of which the village nestled in a forest of orange, almond, fig. and pomegranate trees, the tiny riils of water by which they were irrigated glistening like allver threads in the sunlight, and the yellow crops beyond contrasting with the dull green of the hill verdure long deprived of water, and the gray rocks which reared their craggy pinnacles above it.

The name of this vilings was Bukein. I had heard vaguely of the existence of a spot in Galilee where a community of Jews lived who claimed to be the descendants of families who had tilled the land in this same locality prior to the destruction of Jerusalem and the subsequent dispersion of the race; and as it had never been suspected that any remnant of the nation had clung to the soil of their fathers from time immemorial, and as it is certain that this is the only remnant that has, I took some trouble to ascertain the name of the village and felt that it was worth a prigrimage to visit it. Although hitherto unknown to European and tourists, it has been for many years a spot much frequented by the Jews of Safed and Ti berias, and this summer especially, when the cholera panic prevailed in the country, there was a perfect rush of the wealthier Jews and rabbis of those towns to its pure air and bracing committee. In a small way it is a sort of Jewish

But the village does not consist altogether of Jows. In fact they form the minority of the population, which is composed of eighty Druse. forty Greek-Christian, and twenty Jewish families, the latter numbering about 120 souls in all. Befusing the invitation of the Druse and Christian sholks to accept their hospitality. I listened rather to the solicitations of the elderly Hebrew who eagerty placed his house at my disposal, and was the patriarch of his co-religionists, his local title being, like those of the heads of the other communities, that of sheik. His house was a stone erection with a court yard, and contained a single large room, which, as is common in Arab houses, afforded eating and sleeping accommodation for the whole family. On this occasion it soon became growded to excess.

First appeared the Druse sheik, with white turban, and composed and dignified bearing. Then the sheig of the Christians, a man in no way to be distinguished from the ordinary type of native fellaheen; then the Greek priest in his high, round-topped black hat and long black coat, reaching nearly to his feet; then the Jewish rabbl, who officiates at the synagogue, in flowing Eastern robe; then some village notables of all three religious, who all squatted on mats, forming a semi-circle, of which involved a large demand upon our host for coffee, for on these occasions it is a great breach of politoness not to furnish all the uninvited guests who flock in to see distinguished strangers with that Invariable beverage. When one or two Moslems, who were temporary visitors to the viliage, dropped in from euriosity, I could not fail to be struck with the singular ethnological and theological compound by which I was surrounded. Here in these Christian and Moslem peasants were the descendants of those speient Canaanites whom the conquering Jows failed to drive out of the country during the entire period of their occupation of it, though they doubtless served their conquerors as hewers of wood and drawers of water, and as farm servants generally; for the result of the most recent and exhaustive for the result of the most recent and exhaustive research proves. I think, incontestably that the feliaheen of Palestine, taken as a whole, are the modern representatives of those old tribes, which the Israelites found astited in the country, such as the Camanites, Hitties, Jebusites, Amorites, Paniistines, Edomites, In what proportion these various tribes are now represented, whether they were preceded by a still older autocathonous population, namely, the Ankim, Horites, and so forth, are questions which have so far been beyond the reach of scientific research. But though this race, or rather conglomeration of races, which may be designated for want of a better by the vague title of pre-Israelite, still survives beneath the Mohammedan or Christian exterior, it has not remained uninfluenced during the lapse of centuries by the many events and circumstances that have happened in Palestine.

Each successive change in the social and pos-

Impossed in Palestine.

Each successive change in the social and political condition of the country has more or less affected it in various ways, and we must not be surprised when studying the fellahest at inding Jewish, Heilenie, liabbinie, Christian, and Mussulman remuniscences mingled pellenell, and in the quaintest combinations, with traits which may bring us back to the most remote and observe parious of treathers.

inote and obscure periods of pre-israelite existence. Indeed, for anything one could say to the contrary, the Circitian feinheen of this village, though they had resisted the processivizing efforts of the Naracon conquest in the sixth sentiality, have wershipped the goals of the Graco-lounan period; before that they may have been sews, for there can be liftle question that the aboriginal population, to some extent, adopted the Jewish faith after the conquest, and before that they may have been sold times, when Jewish power was supreme, have been in this very village the servants of the ancestors of these very Jewis who now share its land with them, as they had, according to their traditions, done from the nost ancestry back to the Crusades, when his family was resident at the old town of the same name; and, as a groce-que liliustration of their traditions, done from their traditions, done from their traditions, as a groce-que liliustration of their traditions, as a groce-que liliustration of their processing the same of the can stay is told of a Bedouin shell who, being asked whether he was descended from Abraham, said that he could trace further back, and that, in fact, Abraham was not a shaik of a very good lamily.

The only ready modern intruders in the group by which I was a groce-speed liliustration of their briefs and that, in fact, Abraham was not a shaik of a very good lamily.

The only ready settled in the village about 300 years ago, and whose origin prior to yellower expendence of the force of the conquest of Palestane by the Saraecas, had been Christians, but had then a loosed the faith of the Prophet. There was the priest of the Grace Christians, but had then a loosed in a faith of the Prophet. There was the priest of the Grace Christians, but had then a loosed in a faith of the Prophet, and the above the town the lines there are the country which has since swayed the moral sentiment of civilized humanity. Then there were the presses, in a descendant, the streng of those thousands who were influenc

regard to them. They said that formerly more of the village lands belonged to them, but owing to the wars, pestifences and other misfortunes which had overtaken the country at various times, their property had become diminished; indeed, there can be little doubt that the Druses themselves, when Fakr Eddin conquered his part of the country, appropriated some of it, so that now, so far as their worldly circumstances go, the Jews are builty off. Nevertheless they do not complain, and are skifful, hard working, and persevering agriculturists to my mind more deserving of sympathy than many of their corollationists who have come to settle in the country as colonists, depending more upon the assistances which they derive from without than upon their own efforts. The experience and example of their corollationists at Buken would make the neighberhead of that place a desirable locality for a colony.

From Bakeia I followed a northwesterly direction, by a most picturesque mountain path, and in a few hours reached the romantically situated town of Tershiba, where I was most hospitably entertained by the Cacl, a dignified Arab genileman of a true old Orienial type which is now becoming rare. This place contains about 2,000 inhabitants, many of them the adherents of a Mosiom reformer who created a considerable stir in the country of each of the property of the Covernment as heretical, on account of a chalency which they manifested to deprecate the value of Mosion medians here only the form their property, which at the same time recepting the teaching of the Koran. So lar as

the value of A charmed whose mains they omitted from their prayers, while at the same time accepting the teaching of the Koran. So far as I could learn this teaching of their Ali al Magrabe, for that was the name of the founder of the sect, was of a liberal and tolerant character, and more than once when Moslem faint-liber was excited against Christians It was restrained by the efforts of his disciples, the matter of the character of the charac

restrained by the chors of his disciples, the nutribers of which have however, much diminished since the death of their leader. Tershina, which commands a lovely view is situated about 2,000 feet above the sea, and a ride of a balf day, some part of which passess through other of the most heavily timbered valleys in Palestine, brought me to Acre.

The Sun's New Year's Caller.

The comet of 1812 is now visible to sharp-

lighted persons without the nid of tele-

me, and will probably attract general atten-

tion in January. But the chief interest excited

by this visitor from space will be due, not to its

brilliant appearance, for unless something ex-

traordinary happens to it, it will at its best, be-

many years ago said it would do. Moreover, it has returned very nearly at the predicted time,

although its journey out toward the stars and

seventy years. It must be admitted that

the astronomers know a great deal about

things beyond the earth, when they are able,

by watching the motion of a comet through a

very small portion of its orbit, to tell how far it

will go from the sun, although the distance is

hundreds of milions of miles, and in how

many years it will return, although the time is

nearly three-quarters of a century. On the

other hand, while men of science have been

able to predict the wandering course of a comet

which turned its tail and fled from the sun

about the time when Napoleon fled from Eus-

sia, and has only just now reappeared, winging

its way back, the same learned students of na-

ture have failed to satisfactorily account for

the phenomena which comets present, and are

Jean Louis Pons, the discoverer of this

comet, and the man whose name it bears,

died more than lifty years ago. He was less

fortunate than some other astronomers who

have discovered comets of short period, and

have been able to see them several times again

on their return to perihelion. But then I'ons's

comet has a much longer journey out into

space to make, and it is a more interesting ob-

course about the sun in short orbits and are

Entertaining the American Blahops in Rome

by a Theological Discussion,

ROME, Dec. 9.—As a special attention, Mon-signor Corrado, Rector of the Propaganda College, has

given theological and poetical entertainments in honor

of the American prelates now in the city. The theologic

two clever young men of the American College, Ed.

Hanns and Edward Pose. Other students participated.
Though summoned to the tournament with only two
days for preparation, they showed a complete command

of their theses and a good knowledge of the Latin

language. The American prelates were equally pleased.
The rectors of other national colleges in Rome acknowl-

A Behemian student and sa Armeuisn argued against

the Americans. Cardinal Simeont ofterward invited

some of the prelates to participate in the discussion. The Architekop of Baltimore accepted the invitation, and

space exquisite Latin in the strictest theological form,

German, Dutch, Danish, English, old Slavic, Illyrian

Albaman, Russian, Belienian, and Italian languages The entertainments were given in the little chapet of the

Appeals to Congress for Personal Ald.

the introduction of hills shows the character of the ap-peals made to Congress. A bill for the relief of Penits

i and is followed by one for Jearum Atkins, then one for Darius Sea, then one for Green Penn, then one for P. J.

Jarantillo. A pension is asked for Susan Y Attwater, another for Jerial Onkst, another for Millia Staples, another for Cree Dougherty. The recital of the needs

of Tarvin C. Grooms is succeeded by those of Pius A.

Coomes, then a cry is raised to free J. W. Grunno from

the charge of desertion; while the pecuntary claims of Elijah Crudgington struggle for priority with those of Benjamin Rowdylossh, Barrington Bebymer, and Alstor-

phens Weringer. Almost a thousand of such cases of

private demands appear at one call of the House. Every

one of these bills must be printed, and hundreds of copies of it distributed. Measures of national importance appear almost as exceptions, and a practical system of

classifying private claims under general rules and pro-

One Hundred and Ten Years Old.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Christian

Cooper, who during all his life has resided in the town of Livingston, Columbia county, N.Y., has attained a re-

parkable age. Having occasion lately to examine the

onsequently he is now 110 years old. It has for som

ing been known that he was over 100 but he homeoff did

Ode to the American Hog.

The doors of France are closed to thee. In spite of Morton's earnest prayer, And thou, if they would'st enter there,

Unpitied log+ isomerck his large interior crams

With still uncooked Westphalia vams, Sour wine, and scarcely source kraut,

And yet maliciously shuts out Our porcine prog.

Much slaudered bog!

In this antipathy agree.

The festive trog.

Can cutalogue.

Persistent hog!

In various and evasive ways

subdue their stupid prejudice.

Will come in vogue

Enlightened bog!

Two nations that, with eager hate, The day of munual singhter wait,

And buth devour, instead of thee.

The routes across the salty sea

Are all exactly known to thee, And thou hast more disguises than

The most experienced customs man

Thou yet will thread the legal mare. And once again, when France and Bis

Or fattered, as the case may be-

Alas, poor hog .-

Must do't incog.

been known that he was over 100 but to follow it that know just how much. He is still erred in form active vigorous, inducenatiskely to live yet formative years, reades in the house formerly occupied by fabort on, where he has always lived, except which, no try young for error with the lived except which, no try young for error with the lived which readers be interested in such an unusual and well-authority of interested in such an unusual and well-authority of interested for such as a lived in the lived of height of the lived in th

Washington, Dec. 25.-A glance at the re-

circles he is mentioned as a future Cardinal

The poetical academy turned on the "Catholic Religion in North America."

owing erndition and science up to the level of his high

never seen except by astronomers,

not in accord as to what comets consist of.

back near the sun has occupied

scopes. It will grow brighter for a month to

-Codfish have reappeared off Newburyort, Mass., since the Merrimack has been restocked had and alemices. -Prairie dogs dig their own wells. Fron-

tersman F. Leech tells from Cheer that he knows of such a well 200 feet deep.

The Yuma Indians, on the Colorade, bury catermelons in the dry desert sand, and preserve them all winter, fresh and crisp.

-A breastpin containing an Edison glow light, fed by a small wanteout pucket battery, is sole \$9 at Nurenberg, Germany. -Gog and Magog are the names of two

rocks towering above the sucrounding peaks, less than half way from Maulton to the summit of Pike's Peak. -The London Telegraph expects to witness in a few months the birth of a new nation in the south-

tralian colonies. -A wounded soldier who lives in Burlingion, laws-the Gazette of that city tells the story lines to draw any more peasion money because he has recovered from his wounds.

The colossal statue of John C. Calhouna correspondent in Room writes to the Baltimore Sun-will be litteen feet high, and, when set up in the city of Charleston, will be, with its pedestal, forty five feet high At the base of the granite resta will be scated life size bgures of Truth, Justice, and History. -Mr. Casatta, the eminent Neapolitan

coral dealer to be gained the first prize at the Fisheries Exhibition, estimates the value of the coral experted from Sapirator sea last year at nearly seven million dulars. The previous year it somewhat exceeded this. It has been repeatedly dug up at Connett.

—The widow Illii, whose intended marringe to bishop Warren of the Methodist Episcopal Church has been briefly announced by telegraph, owns the band-samest house in Donver and the largest ranch in Colorado. The wealth left her by her cattle king hus

land six years ago is estimated at from \$1,000,000 to Sometimes. Bishop Surpson of Philadelphia will per-form the estemoty on the 27th inst. -The Methodist Christian Advocate is displeased with that " species of low with which some in-dulge in prayer meetings and class meetings, at camp meetings and in revival services, which often closely borders on prefamity." It says that a short time ago, at his telephonic connection with the Holy Ghost was a comparatively inconspicuous object, but to special, and could not be cut off. The Baptist Exeminate the fact that it has come back as astronomers quite agrees with the Advente that such language should

-The London Times says that the continued depression in trade is a puzzle to the community. The revival of 1870 was but temperary, and merchants now complain that their profits have either disappeared altogether or are extremely small, while great indus-tries are admittedly in distress, and nowhere is there real prosperity. But it is merely the speculative trade which is depressed. The band to mouth trade is fully maintained. The chief cause of the lengthened depres-sion, the writer thinks, is to be found in the series of bad harvests.

-The London correspondent of the Liverpool Delly Fost says: "I hear a great deal of a new singer who is expected to create a semant: nat the opera this sesson. His story is slightly romente. When Patti was down at her chateau in South Wales she heard a great deal of a miner who had a lovely voice. She not only heard of him, but she heard him, and the result of the performance was that the niner left the scene of his industrial inbors, cultivated such musical capacity as he combined with his rich voice, and will come out this season-if all he well-a great baritons."

-Sheep-raising is shorn of its romance by a writer in the Chicago Times, who, after citing the giltering figures of the railroad pamphiets, asserts that many imported sheep husbandmen of the prairies have either sold or given away their sheep, and returned to their old homes in the East. They learned that it re quired the closest attention and the strictest care to proluce a half of the profits that they had read of, and that only experienced men could find large dividends in the business. The old sheep-raisers know that pienty of good food and proper protection from storms are indis-

ject than the little telescopic comets which -A French paper says: The conscripts of the contingent of 1882 have lately been called out, and have been sent to join the regiments into which they have been drafted. At the beginning of the week they were to be seen at all the ratiway stations, dressed in biouses, with bundles slung over their shoulders. These oung men, who are now about to enter upon a soldier's ife, were very gay, not to say buisterous, and were surrounded by crowds of triends and relatives bidding them adies. The fact is that the French conscript has very on the American pressures now in the city. The theological discussion took place on the afternoon of the 5th ust, and the poetical entertainment was given on the rarely to fear that brutal tyranny on the part of superi-ors which so often leads to suicide in the German army, evening of the 6th. The theological debate was led by

as statistics amply prove. -When Mr. Tennyson's peerage was anounced in England, a very general regret was expressed among his friends and admirers in the literary orld. One entirent author recalled Mr. Disraeli's re ort on the hustings when his opponent was priding nimself upon his superiority to a wretched scribbler-s superiority recognized by his recent appointment as sheriff by his most gracious Majesty the King. "I do and deny," answered young Diaraeli, "that his gracious Majesty has made my opponent a sheriff, but it is only God Almighty who can make an author." "After all," said another. "what does it matter? A become se t cial distinction is only the second power of Foet Lau reste—the Poet Laureate system

dignity as Primate Archbishop of America. In elerical -A new amusement for Indies is reported dies in fencing. A well known fencing master, who is were read on this subject in the Belgew, Chaldean, Syriac, Armenian, Arabian, Turkish Cuinese, Cingalese and Georgian languages. A flue orchestra played in the intervals. A second part of the session of sented his pupils before a selected audience of 1,500 persons. The enthusiasm among the audience was very fered compositions in the Greek, Latin, French, Celtic, great, and it was equally divided between the skill of the fair fencers and the tasteful arrangement of the fencing costumes. They consisted of light String, highnecked garments of claret-colored or aky blue material college, which was festooned with flowers. Cardinals reaching to the knees, with tricots and plastrons to cor Simeoni Harroon Jacobini Sharretti and almost all respond. Their hands were protected by feneing gloves and their faces by steel masks.

-William Montgomery, whose home is near Platte City, Mo., married. Muss Alice Cooper, an or-phon, with fifty men armed with shotguna, as witnesses. The courtship had to all outward appearances gone swammingly for some months, but the other day the young man tried to recede, and was arrested. He gars bonds, and was released, and on Saturday evening fifty of the neighbors, metuding Justice Day and Miss Coop-er's nucle, armed themselves with shotguns and got a marriage license. Then they rode to Mentgomery's father's farm and surrounded the house. They gave the youth the option of either occupying a lot in a neighb-ing graveyard or marrying Mise Cooper. He chose live, and Justice Day immediately field the knot.

-You must know something of your business, even if it is wood chopping. An old Eau Clairs logger says that if you are cutting small timber, which may be severed at from one to a half a dozen blows, sa axe with a long thin blade, and as little bevel as is con large frees or cut heavy timber, and this same axe is used, it bites deep in its strokes, but the chip remains in the timber after the incisions, and many more blows are required to dislodge it than were necessary to its forma-tion; therefore, for this purpose, an axe having a thick, heavy beyel and cutting not so deep, is selected. The bevel now acting as a wedge, forces out the chip at the

same stroke by which the incision is made,

—At the last census the natives of Ireiand who were present in England and Wales numbered log 374, being in the proportion of 21.05 to 1,000 of the entire population. The number is not an increasing quantity, for in 1861 it was 604.834, and at each census once it has fallen gradually. These figures show the relatively to the whole population of the country the Irish element is not tormidable, but its unequal direcion over the country concentrates its strength in certain districts. In the agricultural countries the number of Irish is insignificant, but in the manufacturing and min-ing counties and beroughs they form a large proportion of the population. Thus, in Liverpool they are received at 12 5 per cent., in Birkenhead 8.8, in St. Helen's 8.5 to Manchester 7.5, in Salford 7.4, in Lancashire 6.1, it

Manchester 7.5, in Saltord 7.4, in Lancashire 9.1, in Comberland 5.6 per cent., and so on.

—A currious story is told of a statue of Dryope and Apollo, which Mr. Robert Barrett firee most baseccently fluished at Paris. In the studio, says the correspondent who tells the story. I have "be model who stood for it, with the great live snake colling round her, and her face was the statue's own. I asked if it was not almost crust to make her pose thus, snake embraced, but the scriptof seared me that she was very food of the scriptof. The snake himself was a veritable python from Scnegal, and ad been resident for some time at the Antwerp Museum of Natural History. The embrace of this one might easily have been fatal for he was ten feet long and fortably round the model during the wears how and days in which she stood with him entwined about her while the statue grew

-On Dec. 6 the Earl of Devon's Irish tenants met to consider his offer as to the purchase of their holdings. A letter from Mr. Parnell was read, in which he said that six teen years' purchase, provided the year's installments did not exceed the present rents, would be a fair offer on the part of the tenants. The agent say gested making this offer to Lord Devon, and said that to had heard from several landlerds in the country of Lamerick and Kerry, who were watching the negotia-tions and would allow their tenants to purchase on sou-itar terms to those which might be agreed apon it was resolved to appoint a local committee to accretion the views of the tenants and the offers they would be prepared to make for their holdings. o have been signed by more than half the tenants of pressing their willingness to purchase. This business

excites great interest in Ireland.

Instead of trifling with a had cold, use Dr. Jayne's Ex-pectorant, and save your lungs and threat much danger ous wear and tear.—Ads